



REMARKS

The Claim Amendments

Support for the foregoing amendments may be found in the specification as originally filed, for example, at page 13, line 14. Accordingly, these amendments do not introduce new matter.

Applicants submit that the foregoing amendments address the central issue the Examiner raised in the Advisory Action of April 11, 2001, *i.e.*, that one following the teaching of the prior art could produce the same phytase-containing granulate as claimed. The present claims are directed to phytase-containing granulates that contain a phytase at a concentration significantly higher than that known in the art. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the pending claims are allowable over the references cited in the Advisory Action.

Conclusion

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance. If there are any questions or comments regarding this Response or application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney as indicated below.

Date: July 2, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 97,253-A)

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|---|---|----------------------|
| In the Application of: |) | |
| |) | |
| Barendse et al. |) | |
| |) | Examiner: P. Tung |
| Serial No.: 09/089,971 |) | |
| |) | Group Art Unit: 1652 |
| Filing Date: June 4, 1998 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: High-Activity Phytase Compositions |) | |

MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIMS AMENDED BY
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT OF JULY 2, 2001

18. (Amended) A phytase containing granulate prepared by a process comprising the steps of:
- (a) providing a solid carrier comprising at least about 15% (w/w) of an edible carbohydrate polymer;
 - (b) providing an aqueous liquid comprising a phytase at a concentration of at least 14,000 FTU per gram of aqueous liquid; and
 - (c) mixing the solid carrier and the aqueous liquid to form a granulate having a phytase activity of at least 6000 FTU per gram.
19. (Amended) A granulate having a phytase activity of at least 6000 FTU per gram comprising dried granules formed from an aqueous liquid comprising a phytase at a concentration of at least 14,000 FTU per gram of aqueous ~~solution~~ liquid and a solid carrier which comprises at least about 15% (w/w) of an carbohydrate edible polymer.